

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01090 200248Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1090

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY ATTACKS CAREERISTS

1. SUMMARY. A WEEK-LONG LULL IN SIGNIFICANT OVERT DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRC PROBABLY MASKS A PROCESS OF INTERNAL STUDY AND DISCUSSION OF RECENT ARTICLES EXPOSING CORRUPTION IN HIGH PLACES AND OF THE WALLPOSTERS PUTUP IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT. AS THIS STOCKTAKING CONTINUES, CENTERL MEDIA HAVE WEIGHED IN WITH SEVERAL REPORTS AND ARTICLES AIMED AT KEEPING THE PRESSURE ON THOSE WHO THRIVED -- OR SIMPLY SURVIVED -- DURING THE GANG OF FOUR ERA. CAREERISTS, DEFINED AS THOSE WHO WISH TO PRESERVE THEIR OWN POSITIONS EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF THEREVOLUTION, ARE VIGOROUSLY CHASTISED IN A PEOPLE'S DAILY "IDEOLOGICAL COMMENTARY" ON APRIL 19. NOT SURPRISINGLY , THE PORTRAIT PAINTED RESEMBLES WU TEH. END SUMMARY.

2. A WEEK-LONG LULL IN SIGNIFICANT OVERT DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRC PROBABLY MASKS A PROCESS OF INTERNAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 01090 200248Z

STUDY AND DISCUSSION OF RECENT ARTICLES EXPOSING CORRUPTION IN HIGH PLACES AND OF THE WALLPPSTERS PUT UP IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT. MANY OF THE POSTERS REMAIN IN PLACE ALONG CHANG AN STREET, SERVING AS A PUBLIC REBUKE TO PEKING FIRST SECRETARY WU TEH AND HIS ASSOCIATES ON THE PEKING PARTY COMMITTEE.

3. AS THIS STOCKTAKING -- AND INFIGHTING SURROUNDING POLITBURO-LEVEL PERSONALITIES -- CONTINUES, CENTRAL MEDIA HAVE WEIGHED IN WITH A NUMBER OF REPORTS AND ARTICLES EVIDENTLY AIMED AT KEEPING THE PRESSURE ON THOSE WHO THRIVED, OR MERELY SURVIVED, DURING THE GANG OF FOUR ERA.

4. ON APRIL 9, PEOPLE'S DAILY RAN A KIRIN DAILY SPECIAL COMMENTATOR ARTICLE OF APRIL 3 ENTITLED "WHY IS IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY SO SLOW?" THAT PIECE, PRESUMABLY SANCTIONED BY KIRIN LEADER AND TENG HSIAO-PING ASSOCIATE WANG EN-MAO, OBSERVED ACIDLY THAT INERTIA AND STAGNATION SEEMED TO BE THE CASE IN MANY UNITS BECAUSE LEADERS "ONLY LISTENED TO THE SOUND ON THE STAIRCASE, AND SEEING NO ONE COMING DOWN, DID NOT IMPLEMENT THE PARTY'S POLICIES". THE KIRIN ARTICLE SPECIFIED THREE TYPES OF PROBLEMS;
--LEADERS WHO WERE IMPLICATED DIRECTLY IN GANG OF FOUR ACTIVITIES AND THUS DELIBERATELY STALLED ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PARTY POLICY SO AS TO CONCEAL THEIR OWN MISDEEDS;
--LEADERS WHOSE TIMIDITY COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO DESIRE TO PROTECT THEIR OWN POSITION, WHO WANTED TO BE CERTAIN WHICH WAY THE WIND WAS BLOWING BEFOR COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO ACTION; AND
--LEADERS WHO HESITATED TO OPEN PANDORA'S BOX BY INVESTIGATING AND OVERTURNING PAST INJUSTICES, FEARING THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS OF THOSE IMPLICATED IN THE EARLIER INCORRECT DECISIONS.
THE KIRIN ARTICLE RECOMMENDED IMMEDIATE PURGE OF THE FIRST
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PAGE 03 PEKING 01090 200248Z

CATEGORY OF LEADER AND "EDUCATION" OF THE LATTER TWO.

5. FOLLOWING ON THESE THEMES, A PEOPLE'S DAILY "IDEOLOGICAL COMMENTARY" SIGNED BY CHI SSU AND CHANG YEN IN THE APRIL 19 ISSUE VIGOROUSLY CHASTISED CAREERISTS. THE COMMENTARY MAKES PLAIN THAT THE TARGETS ARE THOSE WHO ATTEMPT TO PRESERVE THEIR OWN POSITIONS EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF THE REVOLUTION. SUCH PERSONS, THE COMMENTARY OBSERVES, ARE THE PRECISE OPPOSITE OF THOSE WHO HAD WON THE PEOPLE'S RESPECT AN ADMIRATION BY NOT FEARING BEING STRUCK DOWN, BEING ATTACKED, AND BEING REVILED "DURING THE DAYS WHEN THE GANG OF FOUR RAN RAMPANT."

6. THE COMMENTARY DRAWS A PARALLEL BETWEEN THE TANG OFFICIAL SU WEI-TAO, WHO WAS NICKNAMED "AMBIGUITY SU" FOR ADVISING BUREAUCRATS TO AVOID TROUBLES BY SIDESTEPPING CLEARCUT POSITIONS, AND CONTEMPORARY OFFICIALS WHO "COME UP WITH NO IDEAS, MAKE NO DECISIONS, REALLY DO NOT MOVE THINGS AHEAD, HEM AND HAW AMBIGUOUSLY --- DETOUR UPON ENCOUNTERING A CONTRADICTION (AND) KNOWING CLEARLY THAT A PROBLEM REQUIRES URGENT SOLUTION, NEVERTHELESS LOOK TO THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT, WAITAND SEE, GO BACK AND FORTH, ADND MAKE NO DECISION FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME." SUCH PERSONS ARE QUITE PREPARED TO PLACE COMMUNIST

IDEALS, THE FUTURE OF THE STATE, THE TASKS OF THE PARTY,
AND THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE "AT THE BACK OF THEIR BRAINS"
SO LONG AS THEY CAN CONTINUE BEING AN OFFICIAL "PEACEFULLY
AND STABLY".

7. COMMENT: THESE CHARGES ARE IN FACT A PARAPHRASE OF THOSE
MADE EARLIER IN THE ARTICLES ON THE "WIND" FACTION AND
THE "COVER-UP" FACTION, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE BEEN EXPLICITLY-
IDENTIFIED WITH WU TEH IN THE LATEST CROP OF TIEN AN MEN
WALLPOSTERS. THE ACCUSATION THAT CAREERISTS PLACE
THEIR OWN POSITION AHEAD OF THE INTERESTS OF COMMUNISM,
THE STATE, THE PARTY AND THE PEOPLE IS ALSO REMINISCENT OF
THE PHRASING IN THE CHANG AN STREET POSTER "CAN IT BE
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PAGE 04 PEKING 01090 200248Z

COVERED UP" WHICH BLASTS WU TEH FOR SIDING WITH THE GANG OF
FOUR AT A TIME OF PERIL FOR THE PARTY, THE STATE, AND THE
PEOPLE.
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